

MAINE FARMER

AND JOURNAL OF THE USEFUL ARTS.

BY MARCIAN SEAVEY.]

"Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man."

[E. HOLMES, Editor.]

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No. 14.

THE FARMER.

HALLOWELL, TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 15, 1838.

LET THE BIRDS ALONE.

It appears to us that there are not so many birds among us as there used to be. It is possible that we may be mistaken in this, as perhaps our attention is taken up with other things, and we do not notice them so much as formerly. But if we are right in this conjecture, the question next arises, what is the cause of it? The probable cause of the decrease of these innocent and real friends of the farmer is the increase of *idle boys*, who, as soon as they can shoulder a gun, swarm out from the villages armed and equipped, and commence a war of extermination upon every thing in the shape of a bird.

Nor are they satisfied with this. Before they can handle a gun they prowl around in quest of birds' nests, and rob them of their eggs, and thus prevent their increase more rapidly than by the gun. We look upon these interesting creatures as among the benefactors of the cultivators of the earth. With few exceptions they protect his crops from the destructive ravages of insects, and by following after him as he turns the furrow or harrows the seed, and picking up the worms—eggs, and larvae of insects, prevent their increase, and sometimes the complete destruction of his crops. It is a duty which the farmer owes this part of creation to protect them as much as possible from the persecution of the young sportsmen—to encourage their increase by every method in his power.

There are some strong prejudices against many of the feathered tribes which leads to a persecution of them. It is possible that some of them may occasionally do mischief.

The crow will oftentimes peep into his cornfield and undertake to examine the depth to which it is sown, and how far it has progressed in vegetation, and then on the other hand, he is useful in fighting away the hawks which would steal the good wife's chickens, and picks up the mice, grubs and other vermin, which would do a great deal of mischief if suffered to increase too fast. The blackbird has also been accused of sundry malpractices, but we believe that he is more sinned against than a sinner himself. The Blue Jay sometimes takes the liberty to help you husk your corn, and help himself to a few kernels by way of wages, but this is no more than fair, when he has been busily engaged in thinning out the bugs and the worms, all the live long summer for you. Independent of these considerations, there are others of the sentimental kind which should lead us to shield them from the marauders who would annihilate them from the face of the earth. Dreary indeed would be the prospect, if not a bird was seen or heard in our fields. It would be like the solitude of the far off ocean, if they did not surround us on every hand, enlivening the scene to the eye by their rapid and spirit like motions, and cheering us by their simple melody as they lift up their voices and pour forth their songs upon the breeze, which thus brings both refreshment and music to our ears. The morning and evening concerts of these warblers, make one of the chief delights of rural life, and gratitude for the benefits

which they bestow and the pleasures which they bring, should prompt us to afford them every protection in our power.

Sugar Beets with Indian Corn.

The Farmer and Gardener mentions that a farmer in Pennsylvania, raised a crop of sugar beets with his corn. He planted them in alternate rows, and had a good crop of both. This may be a good plan for those who have ground suitably prepared. It will leave the corn more open to the sun, and at the same time the corn may protect the beets from too much heat.

LUCERNE.

We have had several enquiries made of us respecting Lucerne, or French clover, as it is sometimes called—although it is "not exactly" a clover.

Mr. Glazier, of this town, sent into our office the other day, a root of this plant, measuring nearly a foot and a half. He has cultivated it some, and finds that the climate will suit it, if it be put into the right kind of soil.

As it has an exceedingly long tap-root, it is necessary that it be put into a mellow soil, so that it can plunge down freely. It should also be a sandy loam, or a soil that would not heave much by frost. If it did, it would lift the Lucerne up higher and higher at every frost, and when the ground settled, leave it high and dry to perish. We once sowed some upon stiff clay, but it did not succeed at all. It starts early, perhaps earlier than any other grass, and may be mowed two or three times in the year, and when it can be made to grow well is a very valuable crop. We have no doubt that in many of our sandy loams it will succeed well, but as its peculiar habits are not well known in this latitude, it should be studied carefully and experiments tried with it.

We believe our friend Dr. Bates, of Norridgewock, once cultivated it some. Will he have the goodness to inform us of the result?

MAPLE SUGAR.

We have been informed that owing to the mild winter and spring, larger quantities of maple sugar have been made this season than for several former ones.

We have seen some very beautiful specimens of this article from Penobscot country. The thought arises why is there not much more made than there is?

Rock Maples are abundant in this State, indeed they flourish here in the greatest perfection. And yet they have been neglected and even destroyed, and its valuable products despised, because sugar has been supplied from the West Indies of richer manufacture. On the frontier, however, as well as some of the interior towns there are immense forests of this tree. Why should not they be saved and drawn upon every spring for a supply of sugar for family use and the market? Why would it not be quite a profitable investment for individuals who are able to invest a little property in a sugar plantation of this sort, and every spring embark in the business in a regular and systematic way? The mode generally pursued for obtaining and making sugar has been any thing but a systematic

one. With few exceptions it is secondary and subordinate to other business, and attended to only as time or leisure will allow from other callings. The trees are commonly tapped by scoring deep cuts with an axe, a rough stick is put into it to convey the sap to a rougher trough below. Most of the sap is wasted in collecting and conveying it to the kettle or camp and in boiling down. Now it would undoubtedly be the case, as it is in every other business, that if a more systematic and careful course should be pursued, it would be attended with a corresponding profitable result. Why not have a cheap house and other fixtures, and employ suitable and experienced hands to manufacture during the season? There are many who can answer the question in regard to whether it would be profitable or not.

We recollect that Dr. Rush in some of his writings, went into a calculation from known & established data, that not less than one hundred and thirty-five millions of pounds of this sugar might be made every year in the States of Pennsylvania & New York. It would be a satisfaction to know what amount is annually manufactured in Maine, and also what amount of Cane sugar is imported into the State. Who can give us a better insight into it?

Wisconsin Cultivist.

We have received the first number of a paper with this title, printed semi monthly, at the (now) farthest end of the far west, to wit: at Milwaukee, Wisconsin Territory, by W. P. Proudfit, Editor & Proprietor.

It is gratifying to notice the wide spreading attention that is now given to Agricultural pursuits. Pursuits upon which the real prosperity of our immense country is based. The paper before us is neatly executed and well filled with useful matter. The address of the Editor, is a spirited and well written production.

"It is a source of pure gratification" says he "to the heart of every philanthropist and patriot, to contemplate those changes thro' which (during the last forty years) Agriculture has been so highly exalted on the scale of occupations, so greatly advanced as a science, and so nobly improved as an honorable and useful art. The dark cloud of ignorance and obstinate prejudice, which has so long overshadowed and chilled the exertions of the American Farmer, is gradually moving away before the glowing beams of truth, which science is daily diffusing over the length and breadth of our land. An irresistible spirit of inquiry for new practical truths, is awakened in the bosoms of so many men of great moral worth and practical usefulness, that their salutary influence upon Agriculture, the great business of man and the grand source of a nation's power, is becoming widely felt."

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

The Farmer has no reason to be discontented with his Condition.

MR. HOLMES:—Perhaps there is no class of people in the community more subject to unreasonable discontent than the farmer; not that the disposition of a farmer is worse than that of other men, but the way and manner he receives many blessings, is such, that he is not led duly to esti-

mate their value. I will illustrate this, by introducing the substance of a dialogue, which took place, some years ago, in Massachusetts, between a mechanic and a farmer.

Farmer. I have always thought the mechanic has too much the advantage of the farmer: here you make your two dollars a day, while we poor farmers scarcely realize fifty cents.

Mechanic. Will you be good enough to answer me two or three questions?

F. As many as you please.

M. How large is your family?

F. I have some over a dozen.

M. Do you support them from your farm?

F. I do.

M. What think you it would cost to support them a year, by buying every article consumed, at the rate we mechanics, here in town, have to pay for them,—say milk at six cents a quart; butter at twenty cents a pound; wood four or five dollars a cord, and other articles in proportion?

F. Tut! Cost every thing, almost!

M. Name some sum, if you please.

(Farmer makes a long pause, scratching his head.)

F. Why, really! I think as likely as not it would cost six hundred dollars a year.

M. And I understand you support your family from your farm, without running in debt; and perhaps gain property to boot.

F. I gain on the whole.

M. Now let us calculate a little. You must be a very fortunate man, as well as very industrious, to labor 3 hundred days in a year, winter and all. This gives you two dollars a day, the year round,—more than any mechanic, except a first rate one, can make in good times. But remember the employment of the mechanics, in seaport towns, is uncertain,—the mason can do but little or nothing in the winter, and so with some others; also, all are more or less affected by the ups and downs in business. Now your produce, which you consume in your family, is worth as much to you, in the duldest times as in the most brisk.

F. I never thought of the thing in this way before. I must confess I don't see how you get along those times. Why, I was fretting myself to think I was some pestered to get a little molasses and tea for my wood; and yet I have all the essential articles which I need in my family, at home.

M. Well; now let us calculate a little further. Our milk costs us six cents a quart; now suppose I buy a quart a day,—that will be 365 quarts a year—making a round sum, about twenty-two dollars a year. And then, our wood; say twelve cords a year, (though not one-half what you burn,) at five dollars a cord, is sixty dollars a year. My butter costs me twenty-five cents a pound, on an average. Allowing one pound a day in a large family, which would give them all but a small slice, and yet the cost is ninety-one dollars a year. Now, my friend, we have got one hundred and seventy-three dollars, for three articles; and yet we have but just begun to figure.

F. Well, my friend, I am really much obliged to you for the information you have given me. I will go home with my tea and molasses, and try to be contented. One hundred and seventy-three dollars for butter, milk and wood, in a family, for one year!—and then only one quart of milk a day; just enough to set one mouth a-watering for more. Why, what an unthankful wretch I have been. Heaven help me to a better temper. One quart of milk a day in a family! why, it takes ten in mine. Let us see—that, as you buy it, would be sixty cents a day, or two hundred and nineteen dollars a year. Bless my stars! how thankful I ought to be that I don't live in town. Farewell.

It is true the prices of some articles mentioned in the preceding dialogue, are higher than the same would be in our seaport towns, or inland villages, in this State; but every one who can figure, can make his calculations to conform to prices where he lives. And I believe that any farmer who never made any calculation of this kind, would be much surprised at the result.

In fact, Mr. Editor, I have tried both situations—I know the advantages and disadvantages attending both; and I am decidedly of opinion that the farmer has altogether the advantage in point of substantial happiness, unless he suffers the torments of an unthankful heart to undermine all his pleasures. And this is not all; the indulgence of these feelings of discontent tend to degrade the farmer in his own eyes, and of course in the eyes of others. The idea that "Maine cannot raise her own bread," has operated like binding the energies of her sons in iron fetters. What a man thinks he cannot do, he will not try to do. "Maine cannot raise her own bread!" How it sounds to me! Why, I never considered myself half a quarter of a farmer, and yet I have sold ten bushels of bread stuff where I ever bought one, since I lived in Maine.

Awake, then, ye farmers! Awake from your slumbers!

Nor dream any longer of forests of lumber,—Seize the plough with the grasp of a powerful arm, And clear off the rocks and the stumps from your farm,

Then, when the soil is well turned and fitted for sowing,

You may put in the seed, and it soon will be growing;

For the earth is growing warm with the heat of the sun,

And a bounty to cheer you when your harvest is done.

J. H. J.

Peru, April, 1838.

CULTURE OF WHEAT.

MR. HOLMES:—I hope the importance of this subject will be considered a sufficient reason for writing again on this topic.

My object in the present communication will be to inquire what probable reasons we have to hope to avoid, or mitigate, the ravages of the "Grain Worm." To arrive at as much certainty, as the present knowledge of facts will admit, I shall state some of the facts generally admitted among us, or derived from unquestionable authority elsewhere.

First. Wheat sown early or late is not injured to such a degree as that sown at the usual time.

Second. Early sown grain generally does better than late sown, so that in some seasons, sowing late to avoid their ravages, would render the remedy, perhaps, as bad as the disease.

Third. The time in which the grain worm commits its devastations is short, and confined to one particular stage of its growth; and hence, if the wheat plant can be brought, by any means, to this stage of maturity, either before or after the worm season, it escapes destruction from that cause.

Fourth. Grain that matures early is not so subject to blight from other causes.

From these premises it appears to be all important to avoid their ravages by early maturity. The inquiry now presents itself, how can this be effected?

Early sowing suggests itself to the mind at once; but it is more particularly my object to suggest at this time, some other means as auxiliary to it.

One that I shall mention is by paying more attention to saving our seed wheat. It has been demonstrated by careful experiments, that almost all kinds of fruit may be hastened in coming to maturity several days by carefully selecting the first ripe seeds.

I believe there is not a particle of doubt but that wheat might be hastened in coming to maturity by the same means. It must be evident then, if we can hasten wheat into maturity one week by early sowing, and one week by selecting early ripening seed, we shall get the start of the worm, almost certainly.

Again; another that I would suggest, is found in a fact recorded by Mr. Ruffin, in his Essay on Calcareous Manures. "Marling serves to make soils warmer, and thereby hastens the ripening of every crop more than would take place on the soils, if made equally productive with other calcareous manure. This quality of marled land is highly important to cotton, as our summers are not long enough to mature the later pods. Wheat derives especial benefit from the warmth thus added to the soil; it is enabled better to withstand the severe cold of winter; and even the short time which its ripening is forwarded by marling, serves very much to lessen the danger of the crop being rusted."

Mr. Ruffin here describes the good effects of marl in early ripening the seed wheat to the warmth it imparts to the soil. I am aware on the ground it might be argued, that additional warmth equally forwards the production of the worm. I really question this as being the fact. Mild lime, I should think, would have a different effect. Quick, or caustic lime, produces much heat; but lime in this state has very different qualities from mild state. I believe that lime benefits wheat by combining with certain gases which are evolved during the fermentation of putrescent manure; which are poisonous to the roots of wheat plants, and, when abounding to great excess, corrode them, and sometimes even destroying them; thus forcing the vital principle in the plant to throw out new roots, and to tiller above ground. This deranges the economy of the plant, retards its maturity, and thus brings it, in consequence of this delay, in contact with the causes of rust, and also the fly which produces the grain worm.

This, the reader may say, is theory. Well, give it as such; and invite scrutiny to bring it to the test. But if this theory should finally be sustained by facts, (which I think it will be,) the result will perceive at once, the use of lime affords a powerful auxiliary in hastening the maturity of wheat.

From the view we have taken of this subject, we have two different processes presented to us, which we may bring forward our wheat in season to avoid the Grain Worm. And these two are certain. There is no theory about it.

We have, also, another process equally certain to hasten the maturity of wheat plants, that is, the judicious use of lime; but whether this effect is produced by its imparting warmth to the soil, which would equally favor the early maturity of the fly, still theory. If it should prove, as I expect, that the judicious use of lime hastens the maturity of the wheat plants, by giving them a healthy and substantial growth, and rather retarding than hastening the maturity of the Grain Worm, we can perceive no difficulty, if we use the means judiciously, and perseveringly, to counteract the habits of the Grain Worm, and render its attacks harmless.

Finally, I see no reason to be discouraged. That same benign Providence which raised up Franklin (a Yankee) to guide the forked lightning harmless from the clouds, may raise up some humble, yet efficient genius, to devise means to check or wholly avoid the sore scourge.

Peru, April, 1838.

P. S. I am aware that the marl mentioned

Ruffin contains animal matter in addition to carbonate of lime. But I believe I can produce questionable authority to prove the carbonate of lime equally efficacious in producing the effect we mentioned; though the papers are not at J. H. J.

Bearing away obstructions to the Plough.
 Mr. HOLMES. This is a subject which I hope to engage the attention of every agriculturist in the State of Maine. Stumps, stones and roots are troublesome on mowing lands, but on tillage lands they are intolerable. The thorough culture of a field is a subject which has engaged the attention of farmers in all countries where Agriculture flourished or been well understood. To thoroughly cultivate land that is encumbered with stumps, stones and roots, is impossible. To remove these obstructions, is not very expensive if suitable machinery can be employed. It is well known that to break up grass lands often, is calculated to improve the soil, if the grass, roots and stubble can be completely covered with earth. This cannot be accomplished on lands encumbered with vexatious stones, stumps and roots. Much has been said by farmers and agricultural writers, in regard to the importance of deep ploughing; this cannot be effectually done on grounds where stones, stumps and roots are abundant. When the plough can move from one end of the field to the other, without being obstructed, and turn over one complete unbroken furrow, indeed there is profit and pleasure too in cultivation; but on lands encumbered with stones, stumps &c., there is but little profit and less of pleasure in agricultural operations. Stones that are removed from tillage lands may be converted into a fence that will not decay, and stumps may be used for the same purpose and will also make an excellent and desirable fence. Farmers who have but little money or time to spare, cannot clear away stumps, stones and roots from a large field in a single year, but where is the farmer who cannot remove these obstructions from one acre annually.—This course be followed by all the farmers of the State, and immense benefits will soon be realized, and the removing of stones from our tillage lands should be thoroughly done, and in many cases it will of course be necessary to perform the work a number of years successively, affording an opportunity to the farmer, to increase his stone wall. In some cases the farmer should not be too stingy in the use of powder when crowbars are insufficient. Rumford, April, 1838. R.

The Challenge Accepted.

Mr. HOLMES. In No. 9 of your paper, I noticed a communication from Mr. J. H. J. of Peru, in which he challenges all the gentlemen of the quill, whether "Near Peru" or elsewhere to a "wordy war." I am apprehensive that the phrase, "Near Peru" was aimed at me, and in that case I must notice the affair, or my courage may be doubted. Mr. J. J. asserts that some of your correspondents have given signs of fight with him, &c. I know of but one writer who has shown great "signs of fight" the gentleman above named, "Tyro Jr." He is very sarcastic, and although for aught I know, may be an intelligent and respectable citizen, yet I think his course was liable to strong objections.—With regard to Mr. J. H. J., if report says true, he is a good citizen and no doubt wishes to be a useful man, but his proposition to publish the name of the best writer for the Maine Farmer, in all the Agricultural newspapers in the United States, may be thought by some, to exhibit symptoms of ambition. A real patriot will do all he can for the country, without asking himself the question, Will the people honor me if I succeed in promoting their best

interests? nevertheless, I think the people should award praise to all who render them signal service. If the gentleman should wound me with syllogisms, shoot me with arguments and cut me down with logic, I may leave the field alive, although I may have cause to regret that I attacked the "lion in his armour." If the gentleman should "bear away the palm, in triumph," still if I should be in a small degree serviceable to the State, I hope he will award to me the verdict of good intentions, and always act in accordance with the motto of the Maine Farmer. "Our home, our country, and our brother man." Rumford, April, 1838. R.

PROUTY & MEARS' CAST IRON PLOUGH. Improvements in the Plough, is a subject of more importance to the Agricultural community, perhaps than any other. The objects desirable to be attained are superiority of work, saving to the farmers in time, in repairs, in power of draught, and in the rapidity of performing work. A plough should be strong, durable, cheap, and work easy. We have heard with great pleasure a suggestion that it is the intention of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society to appoint a committee, who shall institute inquiries as to the value of the various ploughs now in use, and to suggest improvements which in their opinion will be valuable. Such an inquiry will be of invaluable advantage not only to the farmers of Massachusetts but throughout the United States.—There are men connected with that Society who are well qualified for the task, and will perform it faithfully and thoroughly.

Through all the various improvements and alterations which have been made in the construction of the plough, the uniform practice has been to raise or set the landside on a right angle to, or perpendicular with the plane of the base, over which the beam has been placed on an acute angle with the line of the landside, carrying the forward end towards the furrow about three inches from a continued line of the landside, to incline the plough to land, or retain its proper width of furrow. The effect has been an irregular, unsteady, struggling motion, which effect is increased as the plough is shortened, and the furrow-slice being cut and raised with a square edge is very liable, as it falls over, to rest upon the furrow last turned and not shut in level. Ploughs made of Cast Iron are necessarily shorter than when made of wood or sheet iron to prevent their being too heavy and cumbersome, and late improvements in Agriculture, and the practical use and good effects of tilling the ground with short cast iron ploughs, having brought them into general use, the necessity of adopting some principle, if possible, to the plough to run more uniformly level and steady, and at the same time to form the furrow-slice into such shape as to ensure its closing and shutting in level, has been seriously felt.

The principle adopted by Prouty & Mears in the construction of their plough as set forth in a communication politely furnished us at our request, is to set the landside on an acute angle with the plane of the base, so that the beam is laid on a line parallel to, and with the continuous line of the landside, and so far over the furrow as to give the plough a sufficient inclination to land, thus causing a strait forward and uniform motion, and the furrow slice being cut in the form of an oblique angled parallelogram—or a board with feather edges—falls in and shuts more readily and uniformly with the furrow last turned, leaving the land when ploughed in the best form for the after tillage, and by covering all stubble and green crop completely under, and leaving the surface level, light and friable, fits it for the production of good crops, requiring less strength of team to draw the plough, and less effort of the ploughman to govern it.

The head or top of the landside being broad, and transversely parallel with the head of the base and extended back from the bolt which fastens the beam so as to make a bearing for the beam to rest upon, serves as a guide for the workman to lay the beam by, and as a brace to prevent the downward pressure of the after end of the beam upon the landside of the plough. The point being under a rock or stump, and being notched into the beam protects the standard bolt which fastens the beam to the plough. The mould-board and shear is formed in that gradually winding shape which is found by ex-

perience to be best adapted to the purpose, turning and laying the furrow in the best possible form for the after tillage, the production of good crops and with the least possible resistance.

The judges on Agricultural Implements at the Mechanics' Fair held in Boston last September, say of this plough: "One of the Committee who is extensively engaged in farming, has made some experiments with this plough, and is satisfied that it combines important improvements which render it more perfect than any other plough that has come under his observation, and that it will be found on trial to realize all the recommendations of its proprietor."

Specimens of the plough may be seen at this office, where we will take pleasure in giving any explanation desired by those who do not fully understand the above description.—Yankee Farmer.

ARTIFICIAL MANURE.—At the meeting of the West Suffolk Agricultural Association, held lately, Sir Hyde Parker gave the health of "Mr. Gall and may chemistry always lend its aid to agriculture!" Mr. Gwilt expressed his conviction that great benefit would arise from Mr. Gall's experiments in artificial manure. Mr. Gall said he had certainly attempted to introduce certain chemical preparations for the improvement of land, but a prophet was no prophet in his country. He felt confident however, that the application would be found beneficial by any who would try it. He did not wish to disguise that his ingredients were saltpetre, soda, and ammonia, and any person who would consult Sir H. Davy's Agricultural Chemistry would be satisfied that these were the competent parts of all vegetable matter. Sir Hyde Parker said the heavy lands were chiefly dependent on cows for manure, and nothing could be more destructive to a farm. "Give me the man," said Sir Hyde, "that will do something for heavy lands; the good lands will take care of themselves." He believed that burning the subsoil was one of the best dressings for clay lands, if the clay was at a certain degree of wetness, any quantity might be burnt without wood or other fuel.—Mr. Gwilt expressed his opinion that the best mode of managing cows in profit during the winter was to keep them tied up in the stall night and day, only taking them out to water.—Sir Hyde Parker stated that an excellent fodder might be made by stacking out straw in alternate layers with green crops, taking care to put it up when dry. It answered particularly well for second crop clover, which should be cut in the morning and stacked the same day, with about equal quantities of straw, to which it would impart its redundant juices.

Portable life boat.—The life boat recently invented by Mr. Mackintosh, has been exhibited at our Exchange—and its power to ride the waters, tested on the Delaware, in presence of Commodore Barron and several other officers, and scientific men, who were highly pleased with its utility. It has also been exhibited to the principle officers at Washington, and played upon the Potomac, to their entire satisfaction. "The hull of the life boat is merely a bag of water proof canvass, bordered with an air tight cylinder of the same material which forms the gunwale of the boat, and being perfectly flexible, allows it to be bent into any desired shape. The cylinder is fitted with a stop cork, which admits of its being inflated by the mouth, and this done, the life boat is ready for use. There may be two or three cylinders attached, one above the other, in case one should be injured, which, however, from the yielding nature of the material, is not likely to happen. A boat of this kind will carry from 20 to 30 persons, with baggage, provisions, etc., and will float with ease over the most tempestuous waves. Its weight, we believe, is not more than about 25 lbs. and it may be rolled up and carried in the hand."

Easy method of purifying Water.—Take a common garden pot, in the midst of which place a piece of wicker work, on which spread a layer of charcoal of four or five inches in thickness, and above the charcoal a quantity of sand. The surface of the sand is to be covered with paper pierced full of holes, to prevent the water from making channels in it. By this process, which is at once simple and economical, every person is enabled to procure limpid water at a very trifling expense.

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M. Well; now let us calculate a little further. Our milk costs us six cents a quart; now suppose I buy a quart a day,—that will be 365 quarts a year—making a round sum, about twenty-two dollars a year. And then, our wood; say twelve cords a year, (though not one-half what you burn,) at five dollars a cord, is sixty dollars a year. My butter costs me twenty-five cents a pound, on an average. Allowing one pound a day in a large family, which would give them all but a small slice, and yet the cost is ninety-one dollars a year. Now, my friend, we have got one hundred and seventy-three dollars, for three articles; and yet we have but just begun to figure.

F. Well, my friend, I am really much obliged to you for the information you have given me. I will go home with my tea and molasses, and try to be contented. One hundred and seventy-three dollars for butter, milk and wood, in a family, for one year!—and then only one quart of milk a day; just enough to set one mouth a-watering for more. Why, what an unthankful wretch I have been. Heaven help me to a better temper. One quart of milk a day in a family! why, it takes ten in mine. Let us see—that, as you buy it, would be sixty cents a day, or two hundred and nineteen dollars a year. Bless my stars! how thankful I ought to be that I don't live in town. Farewell.

It is true the prices of some articles mentioned in the preceding dialogue, are higher than the same would be in our seaport towns, or inland villages, in this State; but every one who can figure, can make his calculations to conform to prices where he lives. And I believe that any farmer who never made any calculation of this kind, would be much surprised at the result.

In fact, Mr. Editor, I have tried both situations—I know the advantages and disadvantages attending both; and I am decidedly of opinion that the farmer has altogether the advantage in point of substantial happiness, unless he suffers the torments of an unthankful heart to undermine all his pleasures. And this is not all; the indulgence of these feelings of discontent tend to degrade the farmer in his own eyes, and of course in the eyes of others. The idea that "Maine cannot raise her own bread," has operated like binding the energies of her sons in iron fetters. What a man thinks he cannot do, he will not try to do. "Maine cannot raise her own bread!" How it sounds to me! Why, I never considered myself half a quarter of a farmer, and yet I have sold ten bushels of bread stuff where I ever bought one, since I lived in Maine.

Awake, then, ye farmers! Awake from your slumbers! Nor dream any longer of forests of lumber.—Seize the plough with the grasp of a powerful arm, And clear off the rocks and the stumps from your farm, Then, when the soil is well turned and fitted for sowing, You may put in the seed, and it soon will be growing; For the earth is growing warm with the heat of the sun, And a bounty to cheer you when your harvest is done.

J. H. J.

Peru, April, 1838.

CULTURE OF WHEAT.

MR. HOLMES:—I hope the importance of this subject will be considered a sufficient reason for writing again on this topic.

My object in the present communication will be inquire what probable reasons we have to hope to avoid, or mitigate, the ravages of the "Grain Worm." To arrive at as much certainty, as the present knowledge of facts will admit, I shall state some of the facts generally admitted among us, or derived from unquestionable authority elsewhere.

First. Wheat sown early or late is not injured to such a degree as that sown at the usual time.

Second. Early sown grain generally does better than late sown, so that in some seasons, sowing late to avoid their ravages, would render the remedy, perhaps, as bad as the disease.

Third. The time in which the grain worm commits its devastations is short, and confined to one particular stage of its growth; and hence, if the wheat plant can be brought, by any means, to this stage of maturity, either before or after the worm season, it escapes destruction from that cause.

Fourth. Grain that matures early is not so subject to blight from other causes.

From these premises it appears to be all important to avoid their ravages by early maturity. The inquiry now presents itself, how can this be effected?

Early sowing suggests itself to the mind at once; but it is more particularly my object to suggest at this time, some other means as auxiliary to it.

One that I shall mention is by paying more attention to saving our seed wheat. It has been demonstrated by careful experiments, that almost all kinds of fruit may be hastened in coming to maturity several days by carefully selecting the first ripe seeds.

I believe there is not a particle of doubt but that wheat might be hastened in coming to maturity by the same means. It must be evident, then, if we can hasten wheat into maturity one week by early sowing, and one week by selecting early ripening seed, we shall get the start of the worm, almost to a certainty.

Again; another that I would suggest, is founded in a fact recorded by Mr. Ruffin, in his Essay on Calcareous Manures. "Marling serves to make soils warmer, and thereby hastens the ripening of every crop more than would take place on like soils, if made equally productive with other than calcareous manure. This quality of marled land is highly important to cotton, as our summers are not long enough to mature the later pods. Wheat also derives especial benefit from the warmth thus added to the soil; it is enabled better to withstand the severe cold of winter; and even the short time by which its ripening is forwarded by marling, serves very much to lessen the danger of the crop from rust."

Mr. Ruffin here describes the good effects of the marl in early ripening the seed wheat to the warmth it imparts to the soil. I am aware on this ground it might be argued, that additional warmth equally forwards the production of the worm. But I really question this as being the fact. Mild lime, I should think, would have a different effect. Quick, or caustic lime, produces much heat; but lime in this state has very different qualities from a mild state. I believe that lime benefits wheat by combining with certain gases which are evolved during the fermentation of putrescent manure; and which are poisonous to the roots of wheat plants, and, when abounding to great excess, corroding them, and sometimes even destroying them; and thus forcing the vital principle in the plant to throw out new roots, and to tiller above ground. This deranges the economy of the plant, retards its maturity, and thus brings it, in consequence of this delay, in contact with the causes of rust, and also the fly which produces the grain worm.

This, the reader may say, is theory. Well, I give it as such; and invite scrutiny to bring it to the test. But if this theory should finally be sustained by facts, (which I think it will be,) the reader will perceive at once, the use of lime affords a powerful auxiliary in hastening the maturity of our wheat.

From the view we have taken of this subject, we have two different processes presented to us, by which we may bring forward our wheat in season to avoid the Grain Worm. And these two are certain. There is no theory about it.

We have, also, another process equally certain to hasten the maturity of wheat plants, that is, the judicious use of lime; but whether this effect is produced by its imparting warmth to the soil, which would equally favor the early maturity of the fly, is still theory. If it should prove, as I expect, that the judicious use of lime hastens the maturity of the wheat plants, by giving them a healthy and substantial growth, and rather retarding than hastening the maturity of the Grain Worm; I can perceive no difficulty, if we use the means judiciously, and perseveringly, to counteract the habits of the Grain Worm, and render its attack harmless.

Finally, I see no reason to be discouraged. That same benign Providence which raised up Franklin (a Yankee) to guide the forked lightning harmless from the clouds, may raise up some humble, yet efficient genius, to devise means to check or wholly avoid the sore scourge.

J. H. J.

Peru, April, 1838.

P. S. I am aware that the marl mentioned

Mr. Ruffin contains animal matter in addition to the carbonate of lime. But I believe I can produce the unquestionable authority to prove the carbonate of lime equally efficacious in producing the effect we have mentioned; though the papers are not at J. H. J.

Clearing away obstructions to the Plough.

Mr. HOLMES. This is a subject which I hope will engross the attention of every agriculturist in the State of Maine. Stumps, stones and roots are very troublesome on mowing lands, but on tillage lands they are intolerable. The thorough culture of land, is a subject which has engaged the attention of farmers in all countries where Agriculture has flourished or been well understood. To thoroughly cultivate land that is encumbered with stumps, stones and roots, is impossible. To remove these obstructions, is not very expensive if suitable machines can be employed. It is well known that to break up grass lands often, is calculated to improve the soil, if the grass, roots and stubble can be completely covered with earth. This cannot be accomplished on lands encumbered with vexatious stones, stumps and roots. Much has been said by farmers and agricultural writers, in regard to the importance of deep ploughing; this cannot be effectually done upon grounds where stones, stumps and roots are abundant. When the plough can move from one end of the field to the other, without being obstructed, and turn over one complete unbroken furrow, when indeed there is profit and pleasure too in cultivation; but on lands encumbered with stones, stumps &c., there is but little profit and less of pleasure in agricultural operations. Stones that are removed from tillage lands may be converted into a fence that will not decay, and stumps may be used for the same purpose and will also make an excellent and desirable fence. Farmers who have but little money or time to spare, cannot clear away the stumps stones and roots from a large field in a single year, but where is the farmer who cannot remove these obstructions from one acre annually.—Let this course be followed by all the farmers of our State, and immense benefits will soon be realized, and the removing of stones from our tillage lands should be thoroughly done, and in many cases, it will of course be necessary to perform the work a number of years successively, affording an opportunity to the farmer, to increase his stone wall. In some cases the farmer should not be too stingy in the use of powder when crowbars are insufficient. Ramford, April, 1838. R.

The Challenge Accepted.

Mr. HOLMES. In No. 9 of your paper, I noticed communication from Mr. J. H. J. of Peru, in which he challenges all the gentlemen of the quill, whether in or "Near Peru" or elsewhere to a "wordy war" I am apprehensive that the phrase, "Near Peru" was aimed at me, and in that case I must notice the affair, or my courage may be doubted. Mr. J. asserts that some of your correspondents have shown signs of fight with him, &c. I know of but one writer who has shown great "signs of fight" with the gentleman above named, "Tyro Jr." He is very sarcastic, and although for aught I know, may be an intelligent and respectable citizen, yet I think his course was liable to strong objections.—With regard to Mr. J. H. J., if report says true, he is a good citizen and no doubt wishes to be a useful man, but his proposition to publish the name of the best writer for the Maine Farmer, in all the Agricultural newspapers in the United States, may be thought by some, to exhibit symptoms of ambition. A real patriot will do all he can for the country, without asking himself the question, Will the people honor me if I succeed in promoting their best

interests? nevertheless, I think the people should award praise to all who render them signal service. If the gentleman should wound me with syllogisms, shoot me with arguments and cut me down with logic, I may leave the field alive, although I may have cause to regret that I attacked the "lion in his armour." If the gentleman should "bear away the palm, in triumph," still if I should be in a small degree serviceable to the State, I hope he will award to me the verdict of good intentions, and always act in accordance with the motto of the Maine Farmer. "Our home, our country, and our brother man."

Rumford, April, 1838.

R.

PROUTY & MEARS' CAST IRON PLOUGH. Improvements in the Plough, is a subject of more importance to the Agricultural community, perhaps than any other. The objects desirable to be attained are superiority of work, saving to the farmers in time, in repairs, in power of draught, and in the rapidity of performing work. A plough should be strong, durable, cheap, and work easy. We have heard with great pleasure a suggestion that it is the intention of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society to appoint a committee, who shall institute inquiries as to the value of the various ploughs now in use, and to suggest improvements which in their opinion will be valuable. Such an inquiry will be of invaluable advantage not only to the farmers of Massachusetts but throughout the United States.—There are men connected with that Society who are well qualified for the task, and will perform it faithfully and thoroughly.

Through all the various improvements and alterations which have been made in the construction of the plough, the uniform practice has been to raise or set the landside on a right angle to, or perpendicular with the plane of the base, over which the beam has been placed on an acute angle with the line of the landside, carrying the forward end towards the furrow about three inches from a continued line of the landside, to incline the plough to land, or retain its proper width of furrow. The effect has been an irregular, unsteady, struggling motion, which effect is increased as the plough is shortened, and the furrow-slice being cut and raised with a square edge is very liable, as it falls over, to rest upon the furrow last turned and not shut in level. Ploughs made of Cast Iron are necessarily shorter than when made of wood or sheet iron to prevent their being too heavy and cumbersome, and late improvements in Agriculture, and the practical use and good effects of tilling the ground with short cast iron ploughs, having brought them into general use, the necessity of adopting some principle, if possible, to the plough to run more uniformly level and steady, and at the same time to form the furrow-slice into such shape as to ensure its closing and shutting in level, has been seriously felt.

The principle adopted by Prouty & Mears in the construction of their plough as set forth in a communication politely furnished us at our request, is to set the landside on an acute angle with the plane of the base, so that the beam is laid on a line parallel to, and with the continuous line of the landside, and so far over the furrow as to give the plough a sufficient inclination to land, thus causing a strait forward and uniform motion, and the furrow slice being cut in the form of an oblique angled parallelogram—or a board with feather edges—falls in and shuts more readily and uniformly with the furrow last turned, leaving the land when ploughed in the best form for the after tillage, and by covering all stubble and green crop completely under, and leaving the surface level, light and friable, fits it for the production of good crops, requiring less strength of team to draw the plough, and less effort of the ploughman to govern it.

The head or top of the landside being broad, and transversely parallel with the head of the base and extended back from the bolt which fastens the beam so as to make a bearing for the beam to rest upon, serves as a guide for the workman to lay the beam by, and as a brace to prevent the downward pressure of the after end of the beam upon the landside of the plough. The point being under a rock or stump, and being notched into the beam protects the standard bolt which fastens the beam to the plough. The mould-board and shear is formed in that gradually winding shape which is found by ex-

perience to be best adapted to the purpose, turning and laying the furrow in the best possible form for the after tillage, the production of good crops and with the least possible resistance.

The judges on Agricultural Implements at the Mechanics' Fair held in Boston last September, say of this plough: "One of the Committee who is extensively engaged in farming, has made some experiments with this plough, and is satisfied that it combines important improvements which render it more perfect than any other plough that has come under his observation, and that it will be found on trial to realize all the recommendations of its proprietor."

Specimens of the plough may be seen at this office, where we will take pleasure in giving any explanation desired by those who do not fully understand the above description.—Yankee Farmer.

ARTIFICIAL MANURE.—At the meeting of the West Suffolk Agricultural Association, held lately, Sir Hyde Parker gave the health of "Mr. Gall and may chemistry always lend its aid to agriculture!" Mr. Gwilt expressed his conviction that great benefit would arise from Mr. Gall's experiments in artificial manure. Mr. Gall said he had certainly attempted to introduce certain chemical preparations for the improvement of land, but a prophet was no prophet in his country. He felt confident however, that the application would be found beneficial by any who would try it. He did not wish to disguise that his ingredients were saltpetre, soda, and ammonia, and any person who would consult Sir H. Davy's Agricultural Chemistry would be satisfied that these were the competent parts of all vegetable matter. Sir Hyde Parker said the heavy lands were chiefly dependent on cows for manure, and nothing could be more destructive to a farm. "Give me the man," said Sir Hyde, "that will do something for heavy lands; the good lands will take care of themselves." He believed that burning the subsoil was one of the best dressings for clay lands, if the clay was at a certain degree of wetness, any quantity might be burnt without wood or other fuel.—Mr. Gwilt expressed his opinion that the best mode of managing cows in profit during the winter was to keep them tied up in the stall night and day, only taking them out to water.—Sir Hyde Parker stated that an excellent fodder might be made by stacking out straw in alternate layers with green crops, taking care to put it up when dry. It answered particularly well for second crop clover, which should be cut in the morning and stacked the same day, with about equal quantities of straw, to which it would impart its redundant juices.

Portable life boat.—The life boat recently invented by Mr. Mackintosh, has been exhibited at our Exchange—and its power to ride the waters, tested on the Delaware, in presence of Commodore Barron and several other officers, and scientific men, who were highly pleased with its utility. It has also been exhibited to the principle officers at Washington, and played upon the Potomac, to their entire satisfaction. "The hull of the life boat is merely a bag of water proof canvass, bordered with an air tight cylinder of the same material which forms the gunwale of the boat, and being perfectly flexible, allows it to be bent into any desired shape. The cylinder is fitted with a stop cork, which admits of its being inflated by the mouth, and this done, the life boat is ready for use. There may be two or three cylinders attached, one above the other, in case one should be injured, which, however, from the yielding nature of the material, is not likely to happen. A boat of this kind will carry from 20 to 30 persons, with baggage, provisions, etc., and will float with ease over the most tempestuous waves. Its weight, we believe, is not more than about 25lbs. and it may be rolled up and carried in the hand."

Easy method of purifying Water.—Take a common garden pot, in the midst of which place a piece of wicker work, on which spread a layer of charcoal of four or five inches in thickness, and above the charcoal a quantity of sand. The surface of the sand is to be covered with paper pierced full of holes, to prevent the water from making channels in it. By this process, which is at once simple and economical, every person is enabled to procure limpid water at a very trifling expense.

LEGAL.

BY MARCIAN SEAVEY.

BOND AND MORTGAGE DEED.

MR. SEAVEY:—I have read the "Farmer" ever since it was first commenced, and must say that I have generally been very well satisfied with it. I think I have derived great benefit from it in many ways.

The Editor, when he gives us his attention, and is not too much engrossed with other matters, always gives us something interesting and useful. Your Legal Department I consider a very useful thing, if not suffered to take up too much space. I should like to make some inquiries under this head, and I believe you have requested you subscribers to ask such questions as they wish to be answered, as all that would be useful might not occur to you without.

I wish to know what title, whether absolute or otherwise, a Mortgage Deed gives, and what course, if any, is necessary to an absolute title and possession, at the expiration of the term for which the Mortgage runs? And also what is the difference in effect between a proper Mortgage Deed and a Warrantee Deed with an Obligation or Bond back, on certain conditions to restore, or give up the Deed; supposing the condition of the Deed and Bond in either case to be fulfilled? If you will please to answer these questions, you will oblige an

OLD SUBSCRIBER AND READER.

A mortgage gives the party holding it no right to jurisdiction over the premises until the time of payment has expired, and he has taken possession in one of the modes pointed out in the law. Until that time it is merely security for the debt due him, and the mortgaged premises cannot be sold to prejudice his claim or lessen the security he thereby holds. After taking possession, the mortgagee is bound to render an account of all the rent and income of the premises while he has it in possession, provided the mortgager or his assigns shall redeem it within three years from the time of his taking possession as aforesaid. There are three ways of taking possession under a mortgage which we will describe hereafter, if our correspondent wishes; but they will take more room than we can spare this week.

If a warrantee deed is given and a bond taken for the payment of a certain amount, the land is not holden for the payment, and the person to whom it is deeded can convey it to a third person, and when the time expires the only remedy is on the bond or against the man personally. No claim is held to the land. If the parties are all honest and responsible, and fulfil their obligations punctually, there is no need of either mortgage or bond—the man's notes are sufficient.

TAXES.

MR. SEAVEY:—By answering the following questions through your valuable paper you would much oblige me as well as many other readers of the Maine Farmer.

1st. Can the poll Tax for Highway Taxes exceed Two Dollars in any case?

2d. Must the poll on Highway taxes bear the same proportion to the poll on money taxes that the amount raised for highway bears to the amount of money tax?

3d. Can a poll tax on the State tax exceed 17 cents, (as I believe all the Tax Acts are alike on that subject,) provided at that rate it does not exceed one-sixth part on State, County and Town Taxes?

QUERIST.

In reply to the inquiries of "Querist," we can

only say to him that all laws are subject to the decision of the Judges of the Supreme Court,—and as no decision has been given on the subject of his inquiries, we can only present him with the opinions of some of the soundest Counsellors, and among them some who have been for years Assessors. They almost unanimously unite in the opinion that the poll tax, both in money and highway tax, should be one-sixth part of the whole amount raised, if the sixth does not exceed two dollars to each poll,—and if it does, the poll tax should be reduced to two dollars, and not below that sum.

The highway poll tax should be made as near the same proportion of the money poll tax, as it can be without exceeding two dollars. But should in no case exceed that sum.

The State tax can in no case, exceed seventeen cents, but should be as near one sixth part of the whole tax as it can be, without exceeding that sum.

MILITIA.

At the adjourned term of the Supreme Judicial Court, recently held in Penobscot County, Judge Shepley read the opinion of the Court, drawn up by the Chief Justice, on the Militia law,—by which it is established that a man cannot be made to do military duty in any town, other than that in which his residence is permanently fixed. For instance, if a man whose residence is in Hallowell, should go to Bangor and hire out to work through the Summer, he is not liable to do military duty in Bangor.

Education.

For the Maine Farmer.

Is it not a primary duty of teachers to impart moral and religious instruction to their pupils?

It is an interesting and important fact that the human mind receives the stamp of its future character at a very early age. It is when the heart is alive to all the sensitive emotions of childish curiosity—when every object, physical and moral, is a novelty to the expanding intellect, that the mind is most susceptible of deep and permanent impression. Confidence and credulity are the characteristics of childhood; for caution and distrust are the result of experience alone. Observation is awake—the natural sympathies are tender and active—and the whole mind is a fertile field on which are to grow and ripen passions either holy or unholy, according as the seed is sown. How vastly important then it is, that the first trainings of the infant mind should be such as will lead it in the right direction; and that all the influences exerted over it, should incline to virtue and morality. Next to the influence of parental instruction, that of the public teacher, in this land of schools, is most efficient in moulding and establishing the character. To him is entrusted the care of developing and strengthening the intellectual powers, and of preparing the mind for mature and independent action.

Since this is the case, it will be readily conceded to be of infinite importance, not only that such teachers, and such alone should be employed as are capable and disposed to impart to their pupils, correct, moral and religious instruction—but that every teacher should regard it a *primary* duty, and indeed the great end and object of all his efforts to implant high and holy principles in the breasts of those who are growing up under his care. He should look upon his pupils not as subjects to be decorated with the external trappings of literature, but he should regard them each and all as so many immortal minds, whose interests are unbounded, and whose worth incalculable. He should endeavor so to regulate their passions, and cultivate their affections as to inspire them with a thirst for knowledge—not from a vain ambition, for its own sake merely,

but that they may render their literary acquirements subservient to the higher and nobler purposes of the soul.

A religious influence doubtless, is the strongest and most efficient that can be brought to bear upon the wayward and vacillating minds of children. It is well known to every teacher of youth, how difficult the task of impressing their minds with a sense of the importance of improving their time and making the most of their abilities for the acquisition of useful knowledge. They are not accustomed to *reason* and *reflect* on the advantages of industry and application to a task, which of itself can afford them little pleasure. If perchance they are ever actuated by a mere ambition to *excel*—that is likely in the end to pervert the very good which it promises. But the mind—however young—that is duly susceptible of religious influence, contains motives which are settled and abiding, and which may be safely and effectually appealed to for an impulse to intellectual exertion.

That is a mistaken notion, which supposes that moral and literary instruction should be given at different times and separate places. The truth is religious sentiments should be instilled into the heart in connection with intellectual culture. They should be continually inculcated into the mind, that they may "grow with its growth and strengthen with its strength." The sanguine passions and ardent desires of the young, which characterize every day and every hour of their lives, without reason and direction to control them, and which from their very nature are taking stronger and stronger hold on the affections of the heart—stand in need of some restraining and corrective influence, which shall serve to check their violence and regulate their operations. But what is the *real* object of education and what is *useful* knowledge? Is it not that by cultivating and strengthening the mental powers and by increasing the intellectual vigor with constant and liberal accessions of knowledge, the mind may thus be enabled by its own faculties of reason and reflection to gain correct views of its important relations to a Higher Power—and be capable of acting the wise part, with regard to its eternal interests? Is it not that the man, who is rising to influence and power, the extent of which it is impossible to predict, may possess a heart so regulated and disposed as that he shall not only secure his own happiness, but shall go about doing good—and live a benefactor and a blessing to his fellow men? Certainly it is. And every system of education which falls short of this effect, fails of attaining its proper object. We can conceive of no greater bane to society, than much learning possessed and exercised by a wicked and perverse mind. That alone is *useful knowledge* which not only enlarges the understanding, but improves the heart. The teachers of children and youth then, should make it a principal object of their instructions, to give a right tone to the moral sentiments of the pupils. They should study their feelings and adapt themselves to all their habits of thinking, and embrace every opportunity that presents itself, to press home to their minds some moral and religious truth.

They should endeavor to cultivate and increase in their hearts, a love and veneration for the Author of their being; and as the admirable truths of literature and science are unfolded to their understanding, accustom them to associate all that is noble and beautiful in the natural and intellectual world, with the excellencies of that Power, which "formed the heavens and the earth and all that is in them." By such a course they would be enabled to detect the secret tendencies of the disposition, and defend the heart from the first encroachments

of irreligion and infidelity—for who can tell how many Voltaires, Rousseaus, Humes and Byrons, have been made in the world, by some deadly error early imbibed and cherished in the heart, for the want of a pious hand to guard and direct them? It is certain that our schools are woefully deficient in moral and religious instruction. I would not be understood to recommend the training of children to any particular faith, or to the adoption of any sectarian creed—but that the essential truths of religion should be early and habitually instilled into their minds. Every interest of the present day demands it.

Setting aside the argument of personal advantage and importance; the interests of our religious and political institutions, require that the moral sentiments of the young and rising mind should be more faithfully looked after.

Who at this time can contemplate the moral and political aspect of our country, without trembling at the rapid advancement of vice and irreligion in all ranks and departments of society? And where lies the hope of change and reform, if not in the morals of the rising generation? Where are we to resort for conservative principles amid all the evils of lawlessness and immorality which threatens us, if not to the pure and holy principles of the Christian religion? Truly, this subject, trifling as it may appear at first sight, if duly considered in all its important bearings, demands the especial attention of every will-wisher to society—of every friend to virtue and religion,

J. B. L. S.

AGRICULTURAL.

Report by J. Buel at the N. Y. Agr. Convention, on the Necessity and Means of Improving our Husbandry.

We cannot be too often reminded of the contrast which exists between good and bad husbandry,—nor too often admonished to search into the causes of this difference, and to apply the needful remedy. The difference does not consist alone in a single crop, or a single season: The soil in one case is becoming more and more exhausted of fertility, and losing its intrinsic value, while in the other its relative worth is on the increase, and the difference in product is consequently annually increasing.

We will illustrate our proposition by a comparison between American and Scotch husbandry, now and sixty years ago. Sixty years ago, the agriculture of Scotland, was in a wretchedly low and unproductive condition; while the products of our yet unexhausted soil were abundant. But sixty years ago the spirit of improvement fell upon Scotland, her agricultural society was instituted, and commenced its useful labors, and was soon after greatly aided by the organization of a national board of agriculture; agricultural surveys were made and published of every county—the best practices of every district thus became known to the whole nation—men of fortune and science turned their attention to the encouragement and improvement of this parent art; and the consequence has been, that wonderful and salutary change has come over that land, fraught with abundance and with blessings. The value of land has in consequence been enhanced three and four fold, and its products have been increased in a proportionate ratio. "In fertile districts," says Sir John Sinclair, "and in propitious seasons, the farmer may confidently expect to reap from 32 to 40 bushels of wheat; from 42 to 50 bushels of barley; from 52 to 64 bushels of oats, and from 28 to 32 bushels of beans, per statute acre. As to green crops, 30 tons of turnips, three tons of clover, and from 8 to 10 tons of potatoes, per statute acre, may confidently be relied on.—In favorable seasons the crops are still more abundant."

Now, what has been our progress during the last sixty years? Has it not been retrograde in agriculture? We have, to be sure, obtained abundant crops from our rich virgin soils, and when these have become exhausted, under bad management, we have occupied and exhausted others in

their turn. But what is the condition now of the lands that were cultivated by our fathers half a century ago? Do they produce the average crops which are given above as the products of Scotch husbandry?—under all our favorable circumstances of climate and of civil liberty. Are our crops half as large? Nay, are they more than a third as large? Do we get from our old districts, an average of more than 10 to 13 bushels of wheat, of 14 to 17 of barley, or of 17 to 21 bushels of oats per acre? At the close of the last, and in the beginning of the present century, the surplus products of northern agriculture were exported, to an immense amount. Now we import the agricultural products of Europe, to avert the evils of famine! The cause of this remarkable difference in the surplus products of the soil, may be partially owing to unpropitious seasons, but is mainly to be sought for in the neglect of our agriculture—both by the people and the governments. In Europe, the governments, and influential individuals, have bestowed spirited attention upon the improvement of agriculture, as constituting the basis of national prosperity and independence.—While with us, improvement in husbandry has been considered a minor concern,—it at least has not received the consideration of the statesman or the political economist. Party politics, and local or personal schemes of aggrandizement, have so much engrossed the attention of the men who ought to lead in these matters, and who do lead in every other public improvement, that the humble claims of agriculture have failed to attract their notice, or engage their attention, although it constitutes the base which supports the whole superstructure of civilized society. If we would preserve the superstructure, with its embellishments, we must take care to make strong and permanent this foundation. Our farmers, too, seem generally indifferent, or spiritless, in regard to the general improvement of our agriculture, either because they mistake their duty and true interest, or that, under the influence of a strange fatuity, they fear they shall sink as others rise.

We should consider our soil as we do our free institutions—a *patrimonial trust*—to be handed down, UNIMPAIRED, to posterity; to be used but not abused. Both are more easily impaired than they are restored—both belong, in their pristine vigor and purity, as much to our children, as they do to us. In some of the once populous and fertile districts of the old continent, the fertility of the soil has been recklessly wasted by men, whose descendants have, consequently, become poor and wretched, and their country almost virtually a desert. In other portions, where the fertility of the soil has been sedulously preserved for ages, or centuries, the population has continued prosperous, wealthy and happy.

It is undeniably true, that our general system of farming is bad; that in most parts of our country the natural fertility of the soil has been gradually diminishing, and its products becoming less; that the evil is increasing; and that without a radical reform, we shall in the north, not only cease to have surplus products to pay for the foreign commodities which long habit has rendered necessary to our convenience, but lack a supply of bread stuffs for our own population. To what degrading dependence will this course of things in a few years reduce us—unless prompt and efficient means are adopted to check our down-hill course in the products of agricultural labor!—With the finest country in the world, a population almost entirely agricultural,—exempt from the enormous burthens, as tithes, rents and poor rates, which press like an incubus upon the agricultural labor of Europe,—and dependant on foreign supplies for the means of subsistence!!—The idea is humiliating—is alarming—to all who look to the ultimate prosperity and happiness of our country. Our maritime commerce depends upon contingencies which we can neither foresee nor control.—Venice and Genoa, and Portugal and Spain, have each in turn, had their "days of commercial prosperity"—they successively rose to opulence—to power—and successively sunk, the victims of corruption, into effeminacy, vice & despotism. Manufactures too, as we have had abundant cause to know, are but a precarious dependence for national greatness. Commerce and manufactures are the shaft and capital of the social column, of which agriculture constitutes the base; and without this base, they can no more withstand the

shocks and revolutions of time, than could the short lived glory of the nations we have named. Great Britain now wields the trident, and the world is made tributary to her workshops. But great as she is in commerce, and in manufactures, these are considered secondary and auxiliary to her agricultural greatness. Land is the basis of her national wealth,—it is the surplus marketable produce of her soil, says Sir John Sinclair, that is the source of all her political power, and of the personal enjoyment of her citizens; and there is no source of domestic industry, or of foreign commerce, he adds, that can in any respect be put in competition with the improved cultivation of her soil. The agriculture of Great Britain employs but two thirds of her population; and yet the surplus products of her soil, suffice to feed and support the other third, and to assist in supplying our deficiencies. Our population is at least five-sixths agricultural; yet during the two last years we have had to import about ten millions worth of bread stuffs to supply our deficiency in this first element of life; and even in the most favorable seasons, the exports of the surplus products of our northern soil, have been merely nominal.

We will state one fact, derived from official documents, which will demonstrate beyond the power of refutation, our down hill course in this great branch of national industry. It is this: the average increase of bread stuffs, passing from our canals to tide waters, from the great grain district of the west—from the Flanders of America—has amounted to three and three quarters per cent; while our population has increased in the ratio of six per cent per annum! If such has been the deficiency, in our grain growing, new and fertile districts, to meet the wants of our increasing population—how much greater must that deficiency have been in the exhausted soils of old settled districts? Many portions of our country, which once exported grain, have, by bad husbandry, become dependent upon the comparatively new settlements, or upon foreign supplies, for this indispensable necessary of life. This remark will apply to almost our entire Atlantic borders.—Will any mathematician tell us, how long it will require, according to the disproportionate ratio of increase, between our population and our means of subsistence, to reduce us to a state of absolute dependence? or, to a state of national want and famine?

It is apparent, from the examples of improvement which are witnessed in many districts of our country, that we can improve the general condition of our agriculture, if we will adopt a wise and energetic policy. Nay, we have a demonstration of the practicability of doing it, in the now palpable benefits of the law to improve our agriculture, passed in 1819. That law involved an expenditure of 40 or 50,000 dollars. and expired in 1824. It was found fault with by many from political motives, and by more from a spirit of envy, in those who either had not the enterprise or the talent to compete successfully for the rewards which it gave to industry and skill. And besides, the law, in some instances, was badly, we may almost say corruptly, executed. Yet under all the disadvantages of want of organizations, of inexperience and abuse, has not that expenditure been like manure spread upon our soil? Did not that law excite a laudable emulation among the whole farming community, and bring into action more skill, more industry, and more improvement?—Has it not been instrumental in greatly improving our farm stock, our farm implements, and modes of culture? Has it failed to increase the farm products of any one county, of a respectable population, to the amount of the total expenditure? Or, has it failed to return into the treasury, every year, the gross amount of that expenditure, in the form of canal tolls upon the increased productions of the soil? We do not put these questions because we have any doubts in the matter, but to bring the subject home to the calm and deliberate consideration of those reflecting men, whose duty and interest it is to scan, to judge, and to act wisely, upon a question of momentous importance to our country. If these men think with us, that the law of 1819 has amply remunerated the state, for its expenditure, on the increased tolls on our canals, and that it has added millions to the value of our annual agricultural products, they will not hesitate to renew that policy which

has been productive of so much public good.—The improvements of the last eighteen years might have been respectable without the aid of that law; but it was that which gave a new impetus to improvement. The fairs and exhibition which it produced, taught our farmers, that there was much to learn in their business;—that they could improve in their farm stock, in their farm implements, in their seeds, and in their modes of culture—and many of them resolutely determined to profit, and did profit, by the lessons of instructions which they then imbibed. And when the spirit of improvement has begun, it is like civil revolution,—it seldom retrogrades. One improvement leads to others, as naturally as the active mind, having attained to one branch of knowledge, soars to other and higher branches. Our southern brethren say, we are in advance of them greatly in agricultural improvement. If this is so, we owe this distinction in rural improvement to the law that was passed, upon Governor Clinton's recommendation, in 1819.

(To be continued.)

STATE OF MAINE.

IN BOARD OF INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

April 24, 1838.

The Committee appointed to report to this board, what sections of the State it would be most beneficial to have explored and examined, the ensuing season, and also a plan of operations, ask leave to

REPORT:

That after due examination of the subject committed to them, they are unanimously of opinion, that it will be for the best interests of the State, to direct the operations of this board for the ensuing year, generally to the North Eastern section of our public domain in the vicinity of the Aroostook river. From an inspection of the map, it will be seen that there is an extent of country about sixty miles square on the Aroostook waters, containing about one hundred townships of land owned by Maine and Massachusetts.

This origin is sufficient to form four counties, each equal in territory to the county of York or of Kennebec, presenting equal, if not greater advantages for the support of a large population, than can be found in any other part of the State, upon the same extent of territory.

From the recent exploration of Dr. Jackson, it is known that all that region in this part of the State, bordering upon the St. John and its tributaries, is of a secondary formation, that its soil is warm, rich and free from stones, that it is highly charged with lime from the decomposition of limestone ledges, and that it presents uncommon advantages for agriculture, particularly for the growth of wheat.

The road laid out by Maine and Massachusetts from the Penobscot to the Aroostook will probably be completed in the course of two years. With the facilities of this road and under the favorable advantages of the new land law, passed at the last session of our Legislature, it is believed that if the capabilities of this country for settlement and agricultural resources can be brought home to the knowledge of the people of this State and generally of New England, that a current of immigration would soon set in this direction, and fill up the fertile valley of the Aroostook with a hardy and vigorous population. It is well known that there is a constant drain of population and invite them to a settlement upon our unoccupied lands.

Considering the great extent of our seaboard and the large amount of capital invested in commerce and in lumbering operations, it seems very desirable to increase the amount of our agricultural products, so as to sustain our commercial operations upon the rivers, and save them the expenses and commissions incident upon procuring so many supplies, as they have to procure from abroad.

It is the wisest policy of the State to promote by all judicious means, the settlement of the public lands. An increase of population not only gives strength to the State from an increase to the number of its defenders within her borders, but adds weight and character to her influence in the federal Government. The right arm of her strength will always be found in that portion of the population who till the soil, and experience has ever shown, that the virtue, the prosperity and the stability of a community depends essentially

upon those whose interests are identified with the soil, and who from their occupants are daily trained to habits of economy and industry. In the opinion of your committee, therefore, it will be highly advantageous to have a thorough exploration of the Aroostook country, this season, in reference to its settlement, and agricultural capabilities. Let an examination be made of all the townships situate on that river and its tributaries, an estimate made of the amount of settling land, its particular quality and situation, the growth of the soil, the geology of the country, the amount of water power, the facilities for boating and driving lumber and for making roads, and in fact of all particulars which may be interesting to those who feel desirous of making settlement in this part of the State.

Let there be a fair report drawn up from an actual exploration of this kind, and published under the authority of this board, and it is believed that the public attention would be instantly drawn to this quarter, and would lead to the most beneficial results.

The Aroostook river is known to be separated from the Penobscot and Fish rivers only by portages, and it would be desirable to examine these portages in reference to a water communication from the Penobscot to the St. John's rivers. It is believed that this exploration and survey can be done at no great expense, as almost every township can be visited by water either in a batteau or canoe.

Your committee would therefore recommend that an exploration and survey be made of the Aroostook river and the public lands situated on the same, the ensuing year by some suitable person under the direction of one of the members of this board.

Your committee also recommend an exploration and survey of the East Machias river in the county of Washington. This river extends about fifty miles into the interior, and waters about twelve townships of land.

There is a considerable fall near its mouth and two or three others some distance above; with these interruptions, this river is boatable nearly to its source.

With a little labor, this river can be connected with the Schoodic lakes, which again can be connected with the Penobscot waters, and so form an extended line of interior water communication.

The inhabitants living near this river in Washington County, have for a long time past contemplated canalling these falls and so opening a water communication into the interior, and feel very desirous to have this river surveyed and an estimate made by some scientific person of the probable cost of such improvements—your committee would therefore recommend an exploration and survey of the East Machias river under the direction and superintendence of one of the members of this board.

ELIJAH L. HAMLIN,
ASHER HINDS,
WILLIAM POPE.

IN BOARD OF INT. IMPROVEMENTS.
April 24, 1838.

Read and accepted,

ATTEST:

SAM'L P. BENSON,

Secretary.

We understand that the Governor and Council, in accordance with the above report, have selected Dr. Ezekiel Holmes, well known by the people of the State as the editor of the Maine Farmer, to make the exploration and survey, and that he will proceed to the Aroostook in a few days. Dr. Holmes is a practical, as well as a scientific man, and will doubtless make a report which will enable the people of the State to put a just estimation upon the agricultural capabilities of the region he is charged to examine.

We know quite a number of young men who have it in contemplation to emigrate to that part of the State, and are only restrained from going immediately by the want of a road to get there, and by want of a more accurate knowledge of the country.—*Kennebec Journal*.

CHARLES S. DAVIES, Esq. of this city, has been appointed Agent to go to Washington with communications from the Executive, and to attend to the interests of the State in relation to the resolves of the Legislature concerning the territory and boundary.—*Portland Advertiser*.

Summary.

ANOTHER STEAMBOAT EXPLOSION.—The Louisville Journal gives the particulars of the explosion of the steamer Oronoko, Capt. Crawford, which left New Orleans on Monday, April 19—as follows:—

"On Saturday morning the 21st, at about 5 o'clock, having made but two revolutions after leaving Princeton, Miss., she burst one of her boilers, blowing overboard some 15 or 20 persons, and severely scalding between 40 and 50 that remained on board. Some 6 or 7 of the latter died previous to the departure of the Peru.—Among the scalded that were on board, as near as could be ascertained, there were between 20 and 30 white men, chiefly deck passengers, 5 or 6 women, and about the same number of children from the age of 1 to 4 years, that have since died. Among those that went overboard, about 4 or 5 were saved. Some few cabin passengers were supposed to be missing. The 2d engineer was badly scalded. The 2d cook, (a black,) who was badly scalded, jumped overboard some time after the explosion and was drowned.

"The general supposition of a physician that was on board, was that few would recover, having been scalded inwardly. The Peru remained so short a time that it was impossible to ascertain the names of the scalded or survivors, some having gone back on the boat, which was towed to Vicksburg, and some on the Peru and N. Albany, bound up. The number of cabin passengers on board the Oronoko at the time, as near as could be ascertained, was from 75 to 80; on deck, 60 to 70, including blacks and children. Most of the passengers in the cabin were in bed at the time of the accident, otherwise the loss of lives would have been immense. Every effort was made by both passengers and crew to alleviate the sufferings of the unfortunate beings, but of little avail. The screams and groans were heartrending in the extreme; prayers and supplications for water, or to put a period to their existence."

From the Augusta Ga. Chronicle and Sentinel of April 28.

AWFUL FIRE IN CHARLESTON.

We learn with the deepest regret, by passengers from Charleston S. C. who arrived here this evening by the Carolina Rail road, that the city of Charleston had been visited by one of the most awful and destructive fire that have ever visited any city in the United States. ONE THIRD OF THE CITY WAS LAID IN ASHES at the departure of the cars this morning at 6 o'clock and the FIRE WAS RAGING AS IF IT WOULD CONSUME AT LEAST ONE THIRD MORE.

The fire broke out at a quarter past 8 o'clock, in a paint store on the western side of King street, corner of Beresford st. The wind blowing strongly from the southwest, blew the flames diagonally across King st. and at the time of the departure of the cars the whole section of the city above Beresford st. up to Society st. and east of King st. to the bay, was burnt down or burning. From Beresford to Society are four sts.—from King st. to the bay about as many, or perhaps more. The fire had also extended four or five blocks west of King st. and was still progressing with terrific rapidity up that street, in the direction of Boundary st. when the cars left. Our informant believes it impossible to calculate what will be the ultimate extent of the fire, as it seemed in no way checked at 6 o'clock this morning.

Among the buildings consumed are a number of churches—the new theatre—the splendid new hotel recently erected, and the whole market, except the fish market. Nearly all the large merchants in the centre of business on King st. were burnt out—among them Parish, Wiley & Co., and G. H. Kelley & Co, Boream & Co., and all in that neighborhood, and the large storehouse of Miller, Ripley & Co. on the corners of King and Society st. was catching the flames when our informant left. The merchant's Hotel, formerly Minor's had not caught, but it was believed to be impossible to leave it. At Norris's Hotel, still higher up King st. and on the west side, they had removed all the furniture and bedding, in almost certain anticipation of being burnt out.

A large number of houses had been blown up to

no purpose. All the powder in the city was exhausted, and all the water in the pumps, and the people wearied with a whole night's incessant and unavailing toil, found themselves, this morning, able to make but a feeble resistance to the still raging and devouring flames. A number of persons had been killed by the blowing up of houses, and throwing furniture into the streets.—The steam-boat Neptune, lying in the Bay, caught fire, but it was fortunately extinguished.

The trunks directed to this office, and the Constitutional office, from the newspaper offices in Charleston, failed to come this evening, as we presume no papers were printed there last night; and as the regular mail was closed last night before the fire broke out, no other information has been received here than that from passengers, which is necessarily limited as to particulars.

This is indeed a mournful catastrophe! A flourishing city laid in ashes—her people burnt out of home and substance, and millions of property destroyed in a single night! The insurance companies of Charleston are of small capitals, and will every one, no doubt, be ruined, and still be able to make good but a small portion of the losses. Hundreds of families must be utterly ruined by this general calamity—years cannot make Charleston what she was.

P. S. Since the above was written, we have been shown a letter from Charleston, closed a little before 4 o'clock this morning, and brought up by a passenger, which confirms all the important facts stated above. It also states that the rigging of many of the vessels lying at the wharves had been burnt.

We have seen one letter from Charleston, which says, "About eight hundred buildings, of all descriptions, have been destroyed. We have lost millions on millions, and twenty years must pass away before Charleston will be as she was yesterday." We most sincerely hope that our accounts by the next mail will be more favorable.

SINGULAR DISEASE. Died in New York, on Saturday, 21st ult., a child of Mr. Wheeler, in Rivington-street. Spots appeared upon his face and body, on Friday morning, of a dark color, distinct as those of the leopard. They continued to spread until they extended over the whole surface, leaving the line of demarcation between them so plain as to give a singularly variegated appearance. The spots were for the most part regularly circumscribed, but some of them branched off in clusters. Those upon the face and shoulders, before death, became confluent or ran together, so that the skin resembled that of an African negro. We were informed that the child had been remarkably healthy from its birth up to the time of this extraordinary appearance. During the two days of his illness, some thirty or forty of the oldest and most distinguished physicians and surgeons of this city were invited by Dr. Oatman (the attending physician,) to visit the child, as he could not give a solution in the case. No one of this number had ever seen a parallel.—*N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.*

The wrong way to stop a Paper.

"Please stop my paper, and I will soon send the balance I owe you." This is altogether the wrong way to do business. If you wish your paper stopped, pay up what is due, and it shall be stopped; but we detest the custom of saying, 'please stop my paper, and I will soon send the balance I owe you.' Soon? when? Ten years hence? If we may judge from experience, there is not more than one in ten of those who say 'please stop my paper, and I will soon pay what I owe,' who ever do pay. We have had so many of these promises totally neglected, that we are sick of them. We do not stop the paper when we have such an order, except at our own discretion. Pay up what is due, if you wish to have your paper stopped.—*Boston Trumpet.*

LOVE AND LAW. A young lawyer who had long paid his court to a young lady, without advancing his suit, accused her one day of "being insensible to the power of love." "It does not follow," she archly replied, "that I am so, because I am not to be won by the power of attorney." "Forgive me," replied the suitor, "but you should remember that all votaries of Cupid are solicitors."

MUTINY. Four men of the crew of the barque Horace, Captain Foss, were carried through this

town last Thursday, on their way to Portland, for trial before the Circuit Court, now in session in that city, on a charge of mutiny. The particulars of the case, as far as we have been able to ascertain them, are as follows:—The Horace left New Orleans on the 5th ultimo for Liverpool, and after having been at sea ten or twelve days, Captain Foss had occasion to order one of the crew about a piece of work, which the latter, not liking very well, promptly refused to perform. Upon this he was ordered by the Captain to be seized up and flogged, when another of the crew interfered, and a brush ensued, in which one of the mutineers threatened to make use of a loaded pistol, which was afterwards found in his possession and taken from him. The conduct of the mutineers had been previously uncivil, they having refused, on several occasions to perform their duty. They continued so unmanageable that it was thought unsafe to proceed and Captain Foss shaped his course for this continent and arrived at Kennebunk on Wednesday.—*York County Herald.*

They were arraigned on Saturday last. Two plead guilty and were sentenced to sixty days imprisonment in the County jail, and the other two were discharged.—*Standard.*

The Baltimore Sun says the promise of abundant crops from all parts of Maryland is truly cheering. The prospects were never better.

The sick are all taking Goelick's Matchless Sanative, which is astonishing the world with its mighty victories over fearful diseases.

MARRIED.

In Norridgewock, Mr. George W. Shaw, of Cincinnati, Ohio, to Miss Sarah E. Arnold, of Mercer.

In Avon, Mr. Moses Morrison, of Madrid, to Miss Sophia Cottle, of Phillips.

In Embden, Mr. Warren Nutting, of Augusta, to Miss Sarah Salley, of the former place.

In North Yarmouth, Mr. Asa Mitchell to Miss Mary C. Humphrey.

DIED.

In Portland, Miss Eunice Shaw, aged 29. Mr. Amos P. Knox, aged 42.

In Augusta, a son of Capt. J. W. Ripley, aged 4 years.

A Mr. Austin, living in the West part of Gardiner, committed suicide by cutting his throat, on Tuesday last. Mr. Austin was in good circumstances as to property, but was impressed with the belief that he should come to want.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—MONDAY April 30, From the Boston Patriot.

At market 170 Beef cattle, 8 pairs Working Oxen, 10 Cows and Calves, and 340 Swine.

PRICES.—Beef Cattle—A further advance was realized, and we quote to correspond, as follows: first at 8 25 a 8 50 second quality 7 50 a \$8 third quality 6 25 a 7 25.

Working Oxen—High prices were asked; we noticed the sale of two yokes only at \$85 and 105.

Cows & Calves—Sales were made at \$28, 30, 38, and 45.

Swine—Prices have advanced. Selected were sold at 8 1-2 c for Sows, 9 1-2 for Barrows: at retail 9c for Sows, and 10c for Barrows; small Shoats 10 and 11.

At a Court of Probate, held at Augusta, on the last Monday of April, A. D. 1838, within and for the County of Kennebec.

A certain instrument purporting to be the last will and testament of JOHN RICH, late of Hallowell, in said County, formerly of Boston Massachusetts, deceased, having been presented by ABRAHAM RICH, the Executor therein named for Probate:

Ordered, That the said Abraham Rich give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published in the Maine Farmer and Chronicle, newspapers printed at Hallowell, in said County, three weeks successively, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta in said County on the last Monday of May next at ten o'clock, in the forenoon, and shew cause, if any they have, why the said instrument should not be proved, approved, and allowed as the last will and testament of the said deceased.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

ATTEST: JOSEPH J. EVELETH, Register.
A true copy. ATTEST: Jos. J. Eveleth, Register.

NOTICE.

A place wanted for a Colored Girl, 12 years of age, that may serve till she is 18. Apply to R. B. LEWIS, Water street, at the foot of Winthrop street, Hallowell. 3w12

Fresh Garden Seeds

At Lincoln's Agricultural Seed Store.

THE Subscriber takes pleasure in announcing to the public generally, and to his friends and customers in particular, that he has greatly enlarged his stock of *Agricultural, Garden, and Flower Seeds*, which has been selected with much care from the most experienced Growers of seeds in the States of Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut and New York; that many rare and valuable new varieties have been added, which makes his assortment more extensive than can be found in any other seed store in the State, and that he is frequently corresponding with Messrs. Hovey, Boston, Mr. Belden, Connecticut, and Messrs. Princes of Flushing near New York, which enables him to procure at short notice any variety or quantity of seeds which he may not have. They are put up as usual in papers with short printed directions, for their culture and use, marked 6 1-4 cents, and 12 1-2 cents, and packed in boxes containing from \$5 to \$10 worth. 33 1-3 per cent. discount from the marks will be made to those who wish to buy to sell again with the privilege of returning the unsold seeds; and 40 per cent. discount will be made to all those who will pay for the whole amount of seeds received on or before the first day of Sept. next.

All orders by mail or otherwise, promptly attended to. R. G. LINCOLN.

Hallowell, March 30, 1838. 33c

Field Seeds.

Golden Straw wheat; Black Sea Wheat; Malaga wheat; Holton wheat;—Bald Barley; Two Rowed Barley;—Dutton Corn; Early Canada do; White Canada do;—Skinless Oats;—Marrowfat Peas.

For sale by R. G. LINCOLN.

April, 5, 1838. 34

S. R. FELKER

Has on hand a large and extensive assortment of Broadcloths, Cassimeres, Camblets, Velvets and Vestings. Also, a large assortment of ready made Garments. Garments cut and made in a genteel and fashionable style, and warranted to fit.

Gentlemen wishing to purchase for cash will find it to their advantage to call at this establishment, Hallowell, Feb'y. 17, 1838. 2

Arrangements of the Kennebec and Boston Steam Navigation Company, for 1838.

The Superior Steam Packet NEW ENGLAND, NATHANIEL KIMBALL, MASTER, will leave Gardiner every Monday and Friday, at 3 o'clock P. M. and Bath at 6 o'clock P. M. for Boston.

Leave Lewis' wharf Boston every Wednesday and Saturday at 7 o'clock P. M. for Bath and Gardiner.

Carriages will be in readiness to take passengers to and from, Hallowell, Augusta, Waterville and Bangor on the arrival of the Boat and on the days of her sailing. Hack fare from Augusta 37 1-2 cts. Hallowell 25 cents.

FARE.

From Gardiner to Boston, \$4.00, } AND FOUNDED.
Bath " " 3.50 }
Deck Passengers 3.00.

During the past winter, the New England has been thoroughly overhauled and repaired, and the proprietors have spared neither pains nor expense to render her in all respects worthy of public confidence. That she is the fastest boat on the eastern coast is now universally admitted, and her superiority as a safe and comfortable sea boat has been fully proved.

AGENTS.

J. REED, Augusta.
C. G. BACHELDER, Hallowell.
J. J. JEROME, Bangor.
L. H. GREEN, Gardiner.
M. W. GREEN, Boston.

Gardiner, April, 1838. 34

Fresh Drugs,

F. SCAMMON, No. 4, Merchant's Row, has just received from Philadelphia, New York and Boston, a large stock of DRUGS, MEDICINES, Chemical, Surgical Instruments, Perfumery, &c. which will be sold low. Hallowell, April 20, 1838.

POETRY.

INDIAN GIRL'S BURIAL.

BY MRS. SIGOURNEY.

"The only daughter of an Indian woman, in Wisconsin territory, died of lingering consumption, at the age of eighteen. A few of her own race, and a few of the whites, were at her grave; but none wept save the poor mother."

Herald of the Upper Mississippi.

A wail upon the prairies,—
A cry of woman's woe,—
That mingleth with the autumn's blast,
All fitfully and low.
It is a mother's wailing!—
Hath earth another tone,
Like that with which a mother mourns,
Her lost, her only one?

Pale faces gather round her,—
They mark the storm swell high,
That rends and wrecks the tossing soul,
But their cold, blue eyes were dry.
Pale faces gazed upon her,
As the wild winds caught her moan,—
But she was an Indian mother,—
So she wept those tears alone.

Long o'er that wasting idol,
She watch'd and toil'd and pray'd;
Though every dreary dawn reveal'd
Some savage Death had made;
Till the fleshly sinews started,
And hope no opiate gave,
And hoarse and hollow grew her voice,
An echo from the grave.

She was a gentle creature,
Of raven eye and tress,
And dove-like were the tones that breath'd
Her bosom's tenderness;—
Save when some quick emotion,
The warm blood strongly sent
To revel in her olive cheek,
So richly eloquent.

I said consumption smote her,
And the healer's art was vain;
But she was an Indian maiden,
So none deplor'd her pain;—
None, save that widow'd mother,
Who now, by her open tomb,
Is writhing like the smitten wretch
Whom judgment marks for doom.

Alas! that lowly cabin,
That couch beside the wall,
That seat beneath the mantling vine,
They're lone and empty all.
What hand shall pluck the tall, green corn,
That ripeneth on the plain,
Since she, for whom the board was spread,
Must ne'er return again?

Rest, rest, thou Indian maiden!—
Nor let thy murmuring shade
Grieve that those pale-brow'd ones with scorn
Thy burial-rite surveyed;—
There's many a king, whose funeral
A black rob'd realm shall see,
For whom no tear of grief is shed,
Like that which falls for thee.

Yes, rest thee, forest maiden!
Beneath thy native tree;
The proud may boast there little day,
Then sink to dust like thee;
But there's many a one whose funeral
With nodding plumes may be,
Whom nature nor affection mourns,
As now they mourn for thee.

Kissing enough for one day!—The Foreign Correspondent of the New York Sun says the report still prevails that Queen Victoria will be crowned in August.

There are about six hundred Peers—and as the custom now is, the sovereign has to receive at the coronation the kisses of each of those pillars of State. If it were only the young and handsome ones, it might be agreeable to the young lady. But the old, and ugly, and toothless, that will be mumbling over her pretty cheek! Faugh! "It won't bear thinking of." "The ceremonial of the act of homage is thus: the Archbishops and Bishops first, kneeling before the Sovereign, the Archbishop of Canterbury (as Primate) saying aloud, and the rest of the hierarchy following him," I William, Archbishop of Canterbury, (and so the rest of the Bishops severally for themselves) will

be faithful and true, and faith and truth will bear unto you our Sovereign Lord (Lady) and your Heirs Kings of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. And I will do and truly acknowledge, the service of the lands which I claim to hold of you, as in the right of the Church. So help me God." The Archbishops and Bishops then get up, and kiss the Sovereign's left cheek.

Then the Temporal Peers (each class separately) follow—the Dukes first, the premier Duke saying aloud, and the rest following him each for himself, "I Bernard, Duke of Norfolk, do become your liege man of life and limb and of earthly worship, and faith and truth I will bear unto you, to live and die, against all manner of folks. So help me God." Then the Marquises, Earls, Viscounts and Barons do the same.

After taking this oath, the Peers rise, and with coronets off, according to rank, each ascends the throne, touches the crown on the Queen's head, with his hand, and kisses her cheek! We should like to be a Peer ourselves, just then!

A Valuable Hint to Subscribers.—The Indianapolis Journal states that a merchant of Cincinnati, having received an order for some goods from a man in a neighboring State, went to a newspaper office, and having ascertained that the person in question was a subscriber, obtained permission to look at the editor's ledger. Having found that the man had paid his bill every year, and was not in arrears, he expressed himself satisfied with the result of the examination, and expressed a determination to fill the order forthwith. He that hath eyes to read, let him understand.—N. Y. Star.

CAUTION.

The subscriber having contracted with the town of Monmouth for the support of Nancy Towel, a town pauper, has made suitable provisions for her support at his house; but the said Nancy refuses to live at the place provided for her. All persons, therefore, are forbid harboring or trusting her on my account, as I shall pay no debts of her contracting after this date.

WILLIAM H. BOYNTON.

Monmouth, April 12th, 1838. 3w12



FRUIT TREES, ORNAMENTAL TREES, MORUS MULTICAULIS.

For sale by the Subscriber. The varieties, particularly the Pears and the Plums, were never before so fine,—the assortment so complete.—Also of Apples, Peaches, Cherries, Grape Vines—a superior assortment of finest kinds; and of all other hardy fruits.

20,000 Morus Multicaulis or Chinese Mulberry Trees can still be furnished at the customary prices, if applied for early. This being all that now remain unsold.

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, Roses, and Herbraceous plants, of the most beautiful, hardy kinds—Splendid Paeonies, and Double Dahlias.

4,000 Cockspur Thorns; 10,000 Buckthorns—for Hedges.

800 Lancashire Gooseberries, of various colors and fine kinds.

Harrison's Double Yellow Rose, new and hardy; color fine—it never fails to bloom profusely.

Trees packed in the most perfect manner for all distant places, and shipped or sent from Boston to wherever ordered.

Transportation to the City is without charge.

Address by Mail, Post paid.—Catalogues will be sent gratis to all who apply.

51—t.june.

WILLIAM KENRICK.

Nursery, Nonantum Hill, Newton, Jan. 25, 1838.

ASSIGNEES NOTICE.

To whom it may Concern—Notice is hereby given that Abner M. Stinson of Richmond, has assigned to us the subscribers, all his estate, real, personal and mixed, including all demands of every description, in trust for the benefit of his Creditors, by deed of assignment, Executed and delivered the 10th day of March, A. D. 1838.—Said deed of assignment is deposited with Samuel Dinslow, and kept at his dwelling house in Richmond, where any and all the creditors of the said Stinson are hereby notified to call and become parties thereto, according to the provisions of the statute in such case made and provided.

SAMUEL DINSLOW,

JAMES W. GRANT,

Richmond, March 10, 1838.

Assignees.

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GARDEN & AGRICULTURAL SEEDS.

HOVEY & Co.,
Seedsmen.

No. 9, MERCHANTS' ROW—BOSTON.

HAVE now on hand and for sale at their Seed Store a large and extensive assortment of GARDEN, FIELD, GRASS & FLOWER SEEDS of the growth of 1837,—at wholesale or retail, warranted of the best quality.

Grass and Field Seeds of every description, viz: Herds Grass, Red Top, Northern and Southern Clover, White Clover, Lucerne, Orchard, Rye and Dew Grass, Millet, &c. &c. Spring and Winter Wheat, Barley, Rye, Buckwheat, Indian Wheat, Mangold Wurtzel, Ruta Baga, Sugar Beet, Honey Locust, White Mulberry, Early and Late Potatoes for seed, Early Dutton, Phinney and other fine and celebrated varieties of Seed Corn, &c. &c.

Vegetable Seeds comprising one of the best assortments to be found in New-England. It would be impossible to enumerate the varieties in an advertisement. Every new and superior kind is annually added to our stock.

Flower Seeds. An assortment exceeding four hundred varieties, embracing all the newest and most rare and choice kinds in cultivation; reared principally by ourselves at our garden near Boston, and warranted true to their names. Among the number are assortments of double German Asters, Lennices, Balsams, &c. &c.

Fruit and Ornamental Trees: Grape Vines, Gooseberries, Currants, &c. Asparagus and Rhubarb roots of the best kinds. A superb collection of Double DAHLIAS. Greenhouse plants, Hardy flowering Shrubs, Bulbous flower roots, &c. Books on Agriculture, Horticulture and Botany. Garden Tools and every thing supplied for the Garden.

Dealers and others furnished on accommodating terms with GARDEN SEEDS by the pound, bushel or ounce; also in BOXES, containing every variety wanted, put up in papers ready for retailing; each kind labelled with the name and particulars of cultivation. A liberal discount made from retail prices.

Having for a long period been engaged in raising seeds and cultivating plants of all kinds, we feel assured that we can supply our customers with articles of genuine quality and true to the kinds ordered. In the selection of Wheat, Corn and other agricultural seeds, we give the greatest attention.

Orders directed to HOVEY & Co., 9, Merchant's Row—Boston, will meet with immediate attention, and be faithfully executed. HOVEY & Co.

BEES—BEE HOUSES.

Beard's Patent Bee Houses, with Bees in them or without Bees. Price, with Bees in them and the Right for one farm, from twenty-five to fifty dollars apiece. The above Bee Houses contain from two to four swarms each, in two separate apartments—each apartment contains two hives and thirty-six boxes; the whole house contains seventy-two boxes and four hives—and is so constructed that you have no occasion to kill any Bees for time.

Price of empty Bee Houses, with a farm Right, fifteen dollars; Right without a house, for a farm, five dollars; Right for a good town for keeping Bees, forty dollars; those not so good, in proportion. Letters, post paid, will receive immediate attention.

EBENEZER BEARD.

New Sharon, March, 1838.

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The Maine Farmer

IS ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY MORNING, In a quarto form, making at the end of the year a volume of over 400 pages, to which will be given a Title Page and Index.

TERMS.—Price \$2 per annum, if paid within the year—\$2.50 will be charged if payment is delayed beyond the year.

In any town where we have not less than six subscribers, we will appoint an Agent who will receive the pay for a year's subscription in grain or any kind of produce that is not liable to be injured by frost, and is convenient of transportation to market, at such price as it is worth in said town.

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